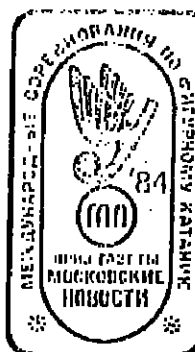


SPORTS



'MOSCOW NEWS' 84 PRIZE: VIEWS OF THE COACHES

On the eve of the contests, an MNI correspondent asked leading Soviet coaches whose trainees were preparing for the "Moscow News" Prize to give their views on the event.

Tatiana TARASOVA, Merited Coach of the USSR:

The "Moscow News" contests are my most favourite and the most important of all international competitions of the season. I remember it was the first competition for which I coached my pupils. For us coaches it is the opportunity to display our new programmes — the product of six months' work — for the first time in a very competitive atmosphere.

Getting ready for a new season and thinking over new programmes, my pupils Natalia Bestemyanova and Andrei Bukin have sought to create something more than a solid composition, the unity of subject and musical theme.

Stanislav ZHUK, Merited Coach of the USSR:

On the whole, the last season was successful for my pupil Alexander Fadeyev who, for the first time, has become European champion and a world bronze medalist. There can be no doubt that Alexander could have shown better results at the Olympiad in Sarajevo, but his injury somewhat hampered his pre-Olympic preparations. The main task for this season is to achieve a stable, high-class performance of all the complicated elements, particularly four-turn jumps.

Training in my group now is the Olympic Prize and world championship winner Anna Kondrasheva.

Natella DUBOVA, Merited Coach of the RSFSR:

For me and my pupils Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomaren-

ko the Olympic season has become a serious international debut: we won bronze medals at the Olympic Games and in the European championship.

For my pupils, the "Moscow News" Prize opens the season, and we are going out onto the ice with great hopes of winning medals of the highest merit. Together with choreographer Yelena Kholina, Marina, Sergei and I have prepared a surprise for figure skating lovers: the Klimova-Ponomarenko duet has for long been taken as a romantic pair, and now they will appear in an unusual key, as the new programme is based on Latin American rhythms.

Yelena CHAIKOVSKAYA, Merited Coach of the USSR:

My pupils, Vladimir Kotin and the dancing duet of Olga Volozhinskaya and Alexander Svinin are constant participants in the "Moscow News" Prize contests. They meet the new season in a militant mood, and are ready for rivalry over high places on the all-Union and international arena.

Kotin has done a lot of work on the compulsory programme, and a new show programme has been prepared to musical fragments from Glinski's opera "Russian and Ludmila".

Volozhinskaya and Svinin intend to regain their positions in the USSR national team. This can be seen from their victory in the Canadian tournament where such an authority as Pamela Davies of Britain highly estimated their performance.



In the USSR ice-hockey championship CAC outplayed Moscow Spartak 8-1. Photo by Yuri Tsvet

TOP EIGHT KNOWN

Five closing games in the second stage of the national ice-hockey championship were played on the first day of December. In Vorkuta, local Khimik gave in to the leaders Moscow Dynamo 3-8.

Three teams — Spartak, Riga Dynamo and Izhetel — which as-



Moscow Region Dynamo beat visiting Kocakmet of Hungary 4-1 in a recent European Cup Winners Cup match. Photo by Sergei Ponomarev

FOOTBALL NEWS

Bangkok. Odessa Chernomorski beat the junior national team of Thailand 1-0 at the start of their tour here.

Igor Belanov scored in the 67th minute. Rostov-on-the-Don Army Club beat Iraq's under-21 team 1-0 in their second game here.

Peking. Vilnius Zalgris of the USSR has ended its tour of Chi-

na, playing two games with local football clubs. It lost 0-2 in Dalian and won 2-0 in Shanghai. Both goals were scored by Rastukov.

Leader's hard burden

After eight "full" rounds when all the adjourned games were played out at the world chess Olympiad both the USSR men's and women's teams led with 24.5 and 18 points respectively.

In the men's section following the USSR were the USA, Bulgaria and Sweden.

In the women's contest Bulgaria and Romania ran behind the USSR. In the tenth round the USSR men's team clashed with the USA. The latter won the right to face the leaders having outstripped altogether several teams by drubbing Cuba 3.5 to 0.5. The USSR suffered its first defeat at 1.5 to 2.5.

Still both our teams have sewn up the title.

USSR TEAM HAS TO WIN

In order to get into the finals of the 1986 world football championship in Mexico, the Soviet team has to win at least four of the six remaining matches, said at a press conference in Moscow head of the USSR Department of Football Vyacheslav Kolosov. This is a hard task, but it can be done, he added.

The past season was highly unlucky for the Soviet team, in two elimination matches of the forthcoming world championship

it scored only one point losing to Ireland 0-1, and drawing 1-1 its game with Norway. Lying ahead are games with two strong teams — Denmark and Switzerland.

In January, the Soviet team will take part in the international tournament in India for the Jawaharlal Nehru Cup and then go to play a number of friendly matches in Italy.

A major football event is in store for the football fans in

the Soviet Union next year. Between August 24 and September 7, games will be played at Soviet stadiums as part of the world junior championship between players under 20 years of age. President of the International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) Joao Havelange says that in their importance these matches are second only to the World Cup among grown-ups.

Vladimir MC MILLIN

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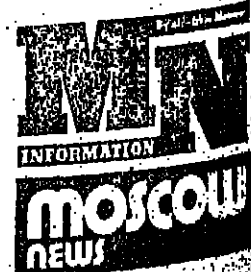
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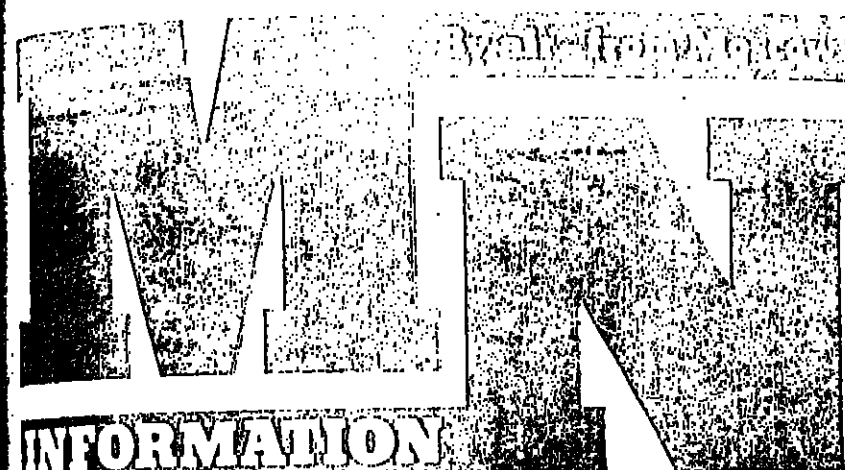
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USSR favours radical decisions

The Soviet Union is ready for radical decisions that would ensure the cessation of the arms race, the banning and eventual elimination of nuclear arms, said Konstantin Chernenko in a reply to an appeal from the Fourth Congress of the International League for the Prevention of Nuclear War.

The Soviet leader noted that it would be impossible to ensure nuclear war within "limits" confines. The price for misadventures of irresponsible politicians would be the planet Earth being reduced into ashes. The Soviet Union shares your eagerness to halt the race towards the irreparable, said Konstantin Chernenko.

This country has already agreed an obligation not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. It proposes that nuclear armaments be frozen, that an agreement be reached on complete elimination of nuclear tests. Of primary importance today

is the solution of the problem of outer space weapons. Unless reliable barriers are put in its way, militarization of outer space would obliterate everything that has been achieved in arms limitation. It will also spur the arms race in other directions and sharply increase the threat of a nuclear war.

Being firmly resolved to achieve a serious breakthrough in reducing the threat of war, the Soviet Union will take part in the forthcoming Soviet-American negotiations in order to achieve mutually acceptable agreements on the entire range of issues involved in nuclear and space weapons, said Konstantin Chernenko.

We are ready to interact honestly and in a constructive way with all those who really wish that international developments do not proceed along the path of nuclear contest, but advance towards strengthening peace and security, detente and trust.

POLITBUREAU WEEKLY MEETING

The Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee has discussed national measures for preventing pollution of the atmosphere in cities, towns and settlements and industrial centres.

In a decision taken on this issue, the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers outlined a large-scale programme for the implementation of which will ensure further reduction in the level of pollution of the air basin.

The Politbureau examined a number of issues in international relations relating to the development of resources in Antarctica. The Soviet Union is guided by the necessity of making the region, which is based on the Antarctic Treaty, ensure equitable and active cooperation of interested countries in the exploitation of natural resources on the sixth continent exclusively for peaceful purposes, reliably protect Antarctica from all military activities.

The Politbureau also heard and approved a report by Comrade Andrei Gromyko on the results of the Warsaw Treaty For-

eign Ministers Committee meeting.

The Politbureau approved the talks held between Comrade Konstantin Chernenko and prominent American industrialist and public figure, Armand Hammer. It also heard and approved reports presented by Comrades Nikolai Tikhonov and Mikhail Gorbachev on their talks with Co-Chairman of the US-USSR Trade and Economic Council, D. Andreas, who is also a Chairman of Board of Directors of the ADM firm. In this respect, it was noted that the Soviet leadership understands the American business community's interest in normalization of relations with the Soviet Union. The USSR wants good relations with the United States on the basis of equality, mutual respect and on the consideration of each other's legitimate interests; it favours development of mutually advantageous commercial, economic and other relations, for which purpose it is necessary to remove artificial barriers.



Welcoming participants to the competition.



Stephen Pickavance of Britain.

Big show of figure skaters in Luzhniki

91 sportsmen from 14 countries compete in the 19th International "Moscow News" Prize Figure-Skating Competition in the Palace of Sport of the Lenin Central Stadium in Moscow.

The first winners, sports pairs, are being determined late at night on Friday, December 7, when this issue goes to the press. Therefore the presentation of the "Crystal Skates"—the main prize of the paper—will have to be delayed till the next issue.



Larisa Selezneva-Oleg Makarov (USSR).

Petrov, Vitaly Yegorov and Leonid Kazanov.

Fadeyev, who wonderfully began the season with a brilliant win in Tokyo at a prestigious international tournament, was untroubled this time, too. He managed everything that was conceived in the programme. And this is only the beginning of the season. The judges gave him the following marks for the short programme—two 6.0, ten 5.5 and two 5.6. Kotin and Petrov also did well but failed to reach Fadeyev.

In the pairs (11 pairs from three nations) world champions Leningraders Yelena Valova and Oleg Vasiliev refused attendance at the last moment due to

(Continued on page 8)

SPACE IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE

Members of the Committee of Soviet Scientists for Peace and against Nuclear Threat have signed at a ceremony in Moscow, the Göttingen Appeal of scientists calling for prevention of deployment of all types of weapons in outer space.

By so doing, we have joined the many thousands of voices of Soviet scientists who share the opinion of the Göttingen Congress on preventing outer space militarization, said Academician

Yevgeny Velikhov, Vice-President of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

The delegates of the Congress were unanimous in their view that space must remain free from all weapons, and that its exploration should only serve the cause of peace, Yev. Velikhov noted.

The Appeal also welcomes the Soviet Union's unilateral undertaking not to be the first to launch any types of anti-satellite weapons into outer space.

Mexican contrasts

"Today, the artists must fight for peace and social justice not only with art, but also with their pens, their words and all other means available to them," said the Mexican artist David Alfaro Siqueiros, whose works are being exhibited at the USSR Academy of Arts in Moscow. His works express, better than anything else, the credo of his life and the aim of his art.

On display are forty paintings, as well as a number of drawings, graphic sheets, and photographs of his murals.

His creative heritage impresses one with its scope, technique and contrasts. He is spoken of as one of the creators of an inimitable modern progressive art concepts in Mexico. Siqueiros was elected Honorary Member of the USSR Academy of Arts and awarded the Lenin Peace Prize. D. A. Siqueiros was a prominent political and public figure and a great friend of the Soviet Union. He visited Moscow on several occasions.

FACTS and EVENTS

More than 800,000 Argentinians have put their signatures under the appeal for peace which in May this year was issued by the public organization "One Hundred for Survival". The organization includes prominent political and trade union leaders and representatives of Argentina's scientific and cultural communities seeking to contribute to the struggle of the peoples of the planet for peace and against the threat of thermonuclear war.

Two hundred and ninety prefectures, cities, towns and villages in Japan have declared themselves nuclear-free zones. According to the newspaper, "Asahi Shimbun", despite pressure from the conservative government, the number of the participants of this movement has more than doubled over the past eleven months.



"A Girl Mother", "The Death to an Invader", "Portrait of Senora Carrillo"

Handwritten note: "The Death to an Invader"

APPEAL TO REASON

New York. Cessation of the arms race, prevention of nuclear disaster and attainment of worldwide security cannot be achieved through further development of military technologies and creation of new weapons systems. The road towards achieving these goals lies through conclusion of agreements on arms control and disarmament, relaxation of tensions, and through overcoming of suspicions and

distrust in relations between states, said the Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme.

Addressing the New York Foreign Policy Association, he said that the most serious threat to peace lies in the plans to spread the arms race into space, particularly creation and deployment of a large-scale anti-missile system with the elements based in space.

More military spending by NATO

Brussels. The NATO Defense Planning Committee recently held a meeting which was attended by defense ministers of the organization's member-countries with the exception of France (it withdrew from the NATO's military wing in 1966). Under pressure from the United States, the ministers agreed on a plan for the development of NATO's military infrastructure for 1985-90. Under the plan the allies are to spend an extra 7,850 million dollars over the next six years on the modernization of existing and construction of new military airfields, landing strips, hangars,

ammunition depots, as well as on the development of military communications systems.

Washington has made its NATO allies accept these huge expenditures in order to ensure a material base for sending major contingents of its troops and military equipment to Europe in case of hostilities.

Experts believe that, as a result of the decision adopted under American pressure, the expenditures for these purposes over the next six years will increase by forty per cent in real terms as compared with the recent level of military spending.

Purchase expensive and use suicidal

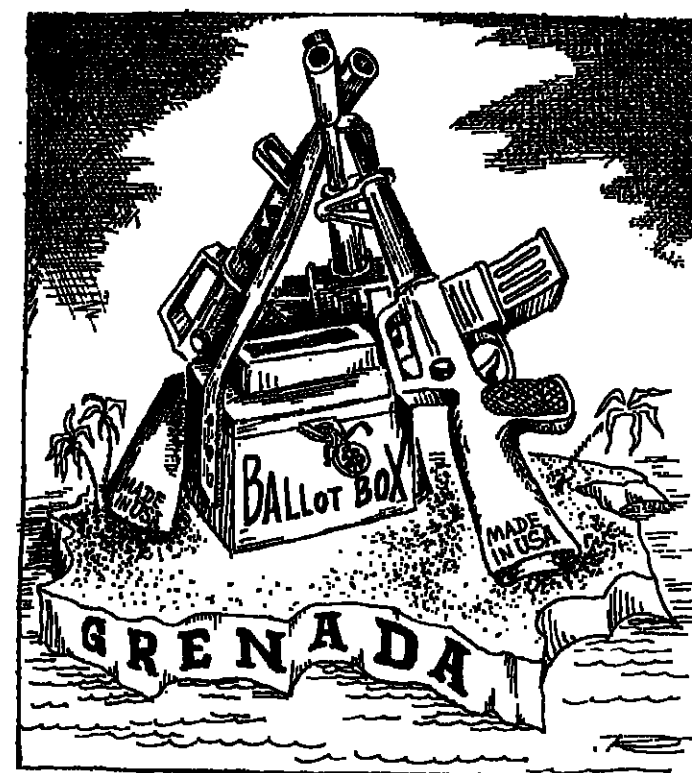
London. Addressing members of the Association of American Correspondents in London, the Labour leader Neil Kinnock said he favoured reductions in nuclear arms. He warned that improvements in the weapons systems and the threat of militarization of outer space over the next two years will make these reductions much more difficult.

During my recent meeting in the Kremlin, he noted, Konstantin Chernenko confirmed the Soviet Union's readiness to respond to a British renunciation of nuclear weapons by reducing and

destroying the number of its medium-range missiles in the European Soviet Union to match the number of nuclear missiles which would be eliminated by the British side.

I would like to stress that the Labour Party will continue to play a full and active role in the efforts to reduce nuclear armaments. If a Labour government comes to power, it will agree with the Soviet Union over reductions of equal amounts of nuclear missiles.

Among other things, Labour favours curtailing the pro-



Supporting "general" elections...

Drawing by Konstantin Rybulko

gramme to equip British submarines with the American Trident nuclear missile system. The full cost of this programme implemented by the Conservative government can be far in excess of 11 thousand million pounds sterling. These are weapons whose purchase would be disastrously expensive and whose use would be suicidal.

Law of the Sea Convention: stabilizing influence

New York. The UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has described the UN Conven-

tion of the Law of the Sea as one of the major achievements of the international community. In his report, he notes that the Convention has been a major contribution to the progressive development of international law making it a basis for international relations. Even before it has been put into effect, the Convention is a stabilizing influence in the area of the law of the sea, says the report.

Complying with the Convention, most states have already made relevant changes in their national policies and legislation or are in the process of their introduction, the report continues. As of October 31, it has been signed by 138 states and other legal subjects.

Election manifesto INC

New Delhi. In case of a general election, the Indian National Congress (INC) will take the country along the path of strengthening national independence and socio-economic progress, states the election manifesto published by the INC.

Noting India's success in the past few years, the INC stresses that the country has been growing steadily and much faster than most other countries. Grain production has increased, reaching a record level of more than 130 million tonnes in 1983-84 fiscal year. The inflation has been reduced, while state governments have been maintaining the basic necessities, thus providing millions of people an opportunity to improve living standards.

In the manifesto the INC confirmed its resolve to continue to the policy of peace, in foreign relations, to the threat of nuclear war, strengthening of friendly cooperation among countries, also expressed the determination to continue the fight against imperialism, racism, and the UN tends to continue to develop relations of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

New Swiss president

Bern. Representative of the Swiss Democratic Christian Party (DCP), Kurt Furgler, has been elected President of the Confederation for 1985. At present he is Vice-President of the Federal Department of Public Economy in the Federal Council (government). The Federal Department of the Interior, DCP member, Agostino Egli, was elected the Vice-President for the next year.

According to Swiss legislation, the president, elected among the members of the Federal Council for a seven-year term automatically becomes head of the government.

Efforts to save lives in Bhopal

New Delhi. The Indian government is living through a difficult time. The number of deaths in the disaster at the chemical factory of the Union Carbide Company, Union Carbide India Limited, where poisonous gas leaked, topped two thousand. More than twenty thousand severely injured people have been put in the hospital. Numerous letters have been received from the victims and their families.

The Ministers also supported genuine talks on all issues under discussion at the Geneva Disarmament Conference aimed at reaching concrete agreements within the framework of this forum. Through constructive approach on the part of all Conference participants it would be possible to draw up an early convention on banning and destroying chemical weapons.

Remarkably, the Berlin session emphasized the need to boost up the UN role in safeguarding peace. The participants reiterated the proposals by socialist countries at UN aimed at limiting the arms race and achieving disarmament, primarily nuclear disarmament, of negotiating an end to crises and conflicts in various parts of the world, and the establishment of a new world economic order. It was specifically stressed that discriminatory restrictions in economic relations and other forms of pressure contravened the cardinal principles of interstate relations.

Statement by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry

Managua. The Government of Nicaragua has resolutely condemned a provocative statement issued by President Reagan on board ships with MIG fighters on board heading towards the Nicaraguan shores. A statement released by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry points out that the White House is spreading these false rumours in order to fan up militaristic hysteria in the United States and to create a pretext for a direct intervention by the American troops in Nicaragua.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry points out that this slanderous campaign is accompanied by a build-up of American military presence in Central America and preparations by gangs of CIA mercenaries for new criminal actions against the Nicaraguan people.

International Commission of Inquiry into Crimes

Beirut. A delegation of the International Commission of Inquiry into Israeli Crimes Against the Lebanese and Palestinian Peoples has started its work in Lebanon. The head of the delegation, Vice-President of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, D. Miles, has said that the commission is to gather evidence about the violations of international law as a result of the Israeli aggression against Lebanon. Special attention will be given to the atrocities committed by the invaders in the occupied Lebanese territories. The reports on the work of the delegation will be presented before the commission which is to meet next March in Bonn.

FACTS AND EVENTS

① The USA and Israel were the only nations to vote against a UN resolution condemning Tel Aviv for its desire to develop nuclear weapons, Reuters reports from New York.

② Concorde is the name of the first satellite which the Andes past countries (an integrated economic grouping of Bolivia, Venezuela, Peru and Ecuador) plan to launch into space in 1990. They think the satellite would help provide hundreds of rural settlements with telephone, telegraph, telex and TV communications.

③ It took Japan 60 years to double its population. According to the bureau of statistics, in the middle of the current year the country's population reached 120,000,000. The 100,000,000 mark was exceeded in 1947. Japan now takes the seventh place in terms of population, coming after China, India, the USSR, the USA, Indonesia and Brazil.

PAKISTAN TO HOLD REFERENDUM

London. Reuters news agency reports that the head of the present regime in Pakistan, Zia-ul-Haq has announced the holding of a referendum on December 19 on his policy of Islamization of Pakistan which provides for many aspects of secular life to be put on a religious basis. The chief military administrator said that if during the referendum most of the population approved his course, he would remain president for another five years.



Members of the Herman Pomarez Ordoñez cooperative in Nicaragua have just ended their session of military training at a local self-defence unit. Nicaraguan peasants have only minutes to spare for relaxation. The situation around the republic continues to grow tense. Agricultural cooperatives near the borders have become targets of terrorist activities perpetrated by counter-revolutionary gangs in the pay of the American CIA. That is why, even during short spells of rest, peasants keep rifles close by side with their guitars. Nicaraguans live in a state of constant preparedness for the defence of their native land.

Masters of 'delicate' missions

New York. "The New York Times" reports that at present preparations are going apace in the United States of special units whose task consists in carrying out such "delicate" missions as liquidation of foreign leaders, capture of air fields and other strategically vital objects, and organization of explosions and other acts of sabotage. One of such "anti-terrorist" detachments, according to the

Science and technology

A CITY IN THE OCEAN?

A special commission has been set up in Japan to study the project of K. Terai (a prominent Japanese scientist) which has already been backed by the industrial and scientific communities.

Terai has suggested that a satellite-city, with a population of up to 2 million, be built in the open sea 370 km from Tokyo. Four docks (the design reminds of a floating drilling rig) should be built on stilts. The size of each of such docks could be 5 square kilometres, with 20-metre gaps between them. According to the design houses, shops, parks and an airport are to be built on the upper deck. The second deck will have a transportation network based around automatic trains. The ocean city's industrial centre must be built on the third deck.

According to Terai's estimates, the project will cost 85,000 million dollars. Nevertheless, there

is a rather serious attitude towards the project in Japan, a country with a high density of the population.

A NEW THEORY ON MADAGASCAR

For a long time scientists have been arguing about where the island of Madagascar had "floated" from to its present place. Some people maintained that at one time it broke off from the south eastern coast of Africa and then drifted to the north. Others believed that the island was at its present place at least for 230 million years. However, an American expedition working on the "Vima" research ship came to a different conclusion. According to oceanographer Millard Coffin, earlier Madagascar adjoined the coast of Somalia, Kenya and Tanzania. About 165 million years ago, simultaneously with the separation of North America from Africa, the island broke off from the continent, moved to the south and "dropped anchor" only 44 million years later.

OF INTEREST

Newspapers and television

Time has not influenced the Finns' tastes. As in the days of yore, they always begin their day by reading newspapers. Ninety-five per cent of the people of the land of 5,300,000 aged between 15 and 74 read newspapers fifteen to thirty minutes every day. According to polls, however, their main source of information is television 79 per cent of those polled continued this.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

ALL THE KING'S MEN

If the trumpet call sounds without confidence, who will prepare for the battle? This is a question from the Bible, writes Gennady Gerasimov in SOVIETSKAYA KULTURA. Similarly, if the official voices in Washington sound without harmony, who and how will get ready there for the Soviet-American talks? There is no unity in the administration.

If we are to put all these voices into a system we shall have the following spectrum.

The "athletes" are convinced that America can do without arms control. The "power politicians" are for negotiations from the position of strength. However, a self-evident condition for such talks is that they are to be held on an equal footing.

The "procrastinators" see the aim of the negotiations in dragging out the time so as to continue the build-ups in American arms.

The "casualties" predict failure not from the beginning, but from the end, asserting that even if some agreements are reached the Senate will block them all the same. There are no "optimists" among the King's men. Only the president himself feels optimistic.

WHAT COURSE IS PREFERRED IN BONN

Commenting on a visit of the West German leader Helmut Kohl to the United States, Yevgeny Griboryev writes in PRAVDA:

Visiting Washington, the West German Chancellor spoke at every step about a complete agreement and identity of interests with the American nation, and he assured everybody of his "warm support" for the policy pursued by the US administration. The language which Helmut Kohl has chosen is also remarkable. It seems that it reflects the position of host-ages which has brought Bonn to giving the final consent for the deployment of the Pershings and cruise missiles.

And indeed, the West German side has never said a word about the need for such measures as prevention of militarization of space. Neither has it put forward a single initiative of its own to serve the interests of defence. Such things were lacking, although West Germany could undoubtedly, with a benefit for its people work in the actual interests of peace, defence, and cooperation in Europe. However, today, Bonn prefers a different course which is causing concern among nations.

DIPLOMACY OF INTIMIDATION

The policy of intimidation is how an American TV commentator described the US policy of negotiating tensions in Central America with Dmitry Vaisky in NEW TIMES.

Intimidation what? Could it be only at the Sandinistas and Nicaragua? The moment chosen for the official naming of anti-Nicaraguan hysteria makes the intent broader. Not accidentally its outbreak was timed to coincide with the Reagan election victory, the aim is to portray the kind of policy his administration intend to pursue towards developing nations during its second term of office. This refers primarily to countries against which undeclared wars have been launched. Let us remember Afghanistan and Angola. In fact, the demonstrative preparation of aggression against Nicaragua is a sign of the general strategic concept of state terrorism, under which the USA assumes the right to "deal strikes" at any country that does not toe the line of the White House, the magazine emphasises.

FROM THE LOCAL TO THE GLOBAL IS ONE STEP

Can the conflict in Chad be described as local? Answering this question in IZVESTIYA, the news-paper's political observer Vladimir Kudryavtsev writes:

If we look at the conflict in Chad from the political point of view and judge about it from the extent of involvement of other countries, I personally would not risk describing it as local.

And indeed, it can hardly be local while the United States, interfering into the domestic affairs of Chad by the proxy of its NATO allies is actually spreading, in very quiet ways, the functions of the Atlantic bloc to non-Atlantic areas. It suits the United States that the critical situation inside Chad remains as tense as long as possible, because this can always be used as a pretext for expanding the "locality" of the conflict in Chad. One example is provided by the crude pressure the United States has exerted on Libya. The influence of Libya's anti-imperialist line on the foreign political orientation in some Arab states does not fall in favour with the authors can and Arab states does not fall in favour with the authors of hegemonistic plans devised by the American administration.

VIEWPOINT

Edgar CHEPOROV

WARSAW TREATY: ELIMINATE TENSIONS, AND RETURN TO DETENTE

The Berlin session of the Warsaw Treaty Committee of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs sounded concern over the tensions prevailing in Europe and the world as a whole. Their concern has fairly serious justifications. The deployment of US medium-range missiles continues in Western Europe. The NATO Defense Planning Committee has just approved the "Rogers plan" calling for deployment of new non-nuclear weapons for "deep strikes" against Warsaw Treaty states. The same committee announced a programme for the development of the bloc's military infrastructure between 1985 and 1990 to the tune of more than 7,850 million dollars, an almost 40 per cent increase on the figure for the past six years.

The session's communiqué confirmed the broad programme of constructive measures taken by the socialist countries to reduce world tensions. The Warsaw Treaty believes that the cardinal issue of our time is the cessation of the arms race and a transition

to disarmament, to nuclear one, in particular. Is this goal attainable? Certainly. What is needed is a transition to a policy of realism and businesslike interaction in solving the problems facing the people of Europe and other continents, as well as a serious dialogue on equal basis between states with different social systems.

The Warsaw Treaty member-states are prepared for such talks, insist on them and the need to reach accord based on the principle of equality and equal security. Their proposals for ending the arms race and preventing war still stand; they emphasize that they do not seek military advantages but want not allow the other side gain such advantages either.

The Berlin session welcomed the agreement reached between the USSR and the USA on holding talks concerning the whole range of issues relating to nuclear and space weapons. The Warsaw Treaty favours accurate definition (from

the very start) of the goals of the talks which are aimed at consolidating strategic stability, preventing militarization of outer space and reducing the level of nuclear confrontation in Europe and in the world as a whole.

The session noted that the work of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe dictates the need for a transition to concrete talks at the earliest possible time. The Warsaw Treaty gives preference to holding such talks in a constructive spirit, to achieving substantive accords on mutually complementary confidence- and security-building measures in Europe on the political, and internationally legal plane, as well as in the military-technological sphere.

The Warsaw Treaty proposes as an important step towards overcoming the nuclear confrontation a quantitative and qualitative freeze on nuclear weapons. The USSR is prepared to

take such a step together with the USA as an example for other nuclear powers. The states represented at the session also favoured an early conclusion of a Treaty on complete and universal ban on nuclear weapons tests and the holding of appropriate talks to that effect.

They further urged those nuclear powers, which have not yet given undertaking not to be the first to use such weapons to offer such a commitment. They consider it appropriate that all nuclear states to do all possible for the prevention of a nuclear war.

The Ministers also supported genuine talks on all issues under discussion at the Geneva Disarmament Conference aimed at reaching concrete agreements within the framework of this forum. Through constructive approach on the part of all Conference participants it would be possible to draw up an early convention on banning and destroying chemical weapons.

Remarkably, the Berlin session emphasized the need to boost up the UN role in safeguarding peace. The participants reiterated the proposals by socialist countries at UN aimed at limiting the arms race and achieving disarmament, primarily nuclear disarmament, of negotiating an end to crises and conflicts in various parts of the world, and the establishment of a new world economic order. It was specifically stressed that discriminatory restrictions in economic relations and other forms of pressure contravened the cardinal principles of interstate relations.

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